



**Volunteering  
Clubs &  
Societies  
Awards 2022**

#MoreThanADegree

**EVENT  
PROGRAMME**

Hello, everyone! Welcome to the **2022 Volunteering, Clubs and Societies Awards** ceremony. Tonight, we are here to celebrate the hard work and achievements of our student volunteers, clubs and societies over the last academic year. Whilst it's been another difficult year, you have all made it here tonight, and your peers have recognised that your efforts have been worth putting forward for an award!

Although the impact of the pandemic is still being felt, the easing of some lockdown restrictions in recent times has allowed for more activity on campus and in the community, resulting in more opportunities for volunteering and more club and society events. It makes me proud to see how you have all successfully bounced back from a year with few activities taking place in-person.

Our clubs and societies have continued to run online and in-person events, giving students the opportunity to meet new people, socialise, and try out a new experience.

And a word to our student volunteers, the unsung heroes during the last year. A pandemic has not stopped you from doing all the amazing work you have achieved, and every single action, may it be big or small, has been worthwhile and made a difference to those in the local community.

Tonight, is about you. Make the most of it, grab a drink and enjoy the night ahead as we celebrate the achievements of you and your peers.



Sam Malis

**Vice President Student Activities  
Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**



## **SCHEDULE**

**19:00 – 19:30**

**- Arrival and Drinks Reception -**

**19:30 – 20:30**

**- Introduction to the Evening and First Half of the Awards -**

GU Award for Community Volunteering  
GU Award for Campus Volunteering  
GU Club or Society Charitable Giving Award  
GU Student Wellbeing Award  
GU Club or Society Activism Award

**20:30 – 21:00**

**- Interval -**

**21:00 – 22:00**

**- Second Half of the Awards -**

GU Club or Society Engagement of the Year  
GU Principal's Award for Civic Engagement  
GU Club or Society Member of the Year  
GU Club or Society Event of the Year  
GU Club or Society of the Year  
Closing statements



## GU AWARD FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

This award recognises our students' partnership and involvement with Glasgow's local community, to challenge deprivation and inequality and to help build a positive relationship between the University and its neighbours.

### LISA CHESTNUTT - FEMENG



Our first nominee is Glasgow University Female Engineering Society's Outreach Convener, Lisa Chestnutt. STEM engagement is a hugely influential tool to inspire the next generation. Lisa has helped to create an outreach program with Glasgow City Council, to engage a whopping 1,500 pupils across 22 schools. The program enables children and young people to explore engineering whilst improving their literacy and numeracy levels, through educational workshops and supporting lessons. To support the pupils, Lisa has recruited 6 industry professionals and 20 members to help answer pupil's questions.

### HOLLY SMITH - GLASGOW UNIVERSITY SERVICE TO THE HOMELESS



Our next nominee is Holly Smith, former President of Glasgow University's Service to the Homeless. Holly has been an active member of GUSH for many years and has filled various committee roles. As President last year, she oversaw the difficult challenge of ensuring the safe return of shifts during the pandemic. It is thanks to her leadership and instruction that the team were able to work together to get the service back up and running again. Since becoming Treasurer this year, Holly remains an invaluable part of the team, offering her advice and help when needed whilst helping to secure vital funds. She will be greatly missed within GUSH!



## RAMSAY REYNOLDS – RISING STARS



Next, we have Ramsay Reynolds, who has been nominated for his volunteering work with Rising Stars. The Rising Stars project was founded a few years ago, to provide children and young people in Govan with basketball coaching, mentorship, and tuition. Ramsay is a great example of a GU World Changer. He started off as a volunteer coach within the program, donating his time throughout the exam period and into Christmas. Now, as President of the Men's Basketball Club, Ramsay fulfils a management role, helping to book facilities, recruit new coaches, and continuing to provide mentorship to children and young people.



## GU AWARD FOR CAMPUS VOLUNTEERING

This award celebrates the wonderful work our volunteers have undertaken right here on campus, for the benefit of the student community.

### **AOIFE AITKEN & STEWART BROWN – NIGHTLINE**



Our first nominees are Aoife Aitken and Stewart Brown, who have been jointly nominated for their contributions to Glasgow Students' Nightline over the last year. As Directors of the service, both Stewart and Aoife have volunteered for 20+ hours each week to create a merged Nightline service for students across the city, in collaboration with Strathclyde University and Glasgow Caledonian University. In addition, they have recruited new volunteers and helped reinstate Nightline's 7pm – 7am phone service for the first time since the pandemic began, to ensure students have a free and safe space to talk to someone about anything that may be on their minds.

### **NATASHA MOORE**



Our next nominee is Glasgow University Student Television's Producer, Natasha Moore. GUST is the oldest student-run television station, made by students for students at the University of Glasgow. They create a variety of programmes which are broadcast online, from sports and music videos to short films and animations. Natasha has been nominated for her warm and welcoming personality, and for going above and beyond to make sure that the individual programme producers at GUST have everything they need to succeed, whether that be helping with the more technical aspects of making a programme, to connecting producers with other volunteers looking to become crew members.



## PAK SU



Our remaining nominee for this award is Pak Su, who has offered his time to help run numerous activities and events on campus, from the University's Welcome Fairs, Volunteering Fair and Therapets sessions, to standing outside in the freezing cold to give out cups of tea! No matter the occasion, you can always rely on Pak to donate his time.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY CHARITABLE GIVING AWARD

This award is for clubs and societies who have led successful fundraising activities, events or campaigns throughout the academic year.

### MACMILLAN SOCIETY



The Macmillan Society raise awareness, fundraise, and help support people affected by cancer. Set up in 2013, the Society have recently taken part in a number of notable fundraisers, including selling baked goods at 5am in the Daft Friday queue, to raising over £1,000 through a raffle in the Beer Bar Quiz. These along with other events have helped increase donations for the charity.

### CELTIC SUPPORTERS CLUB

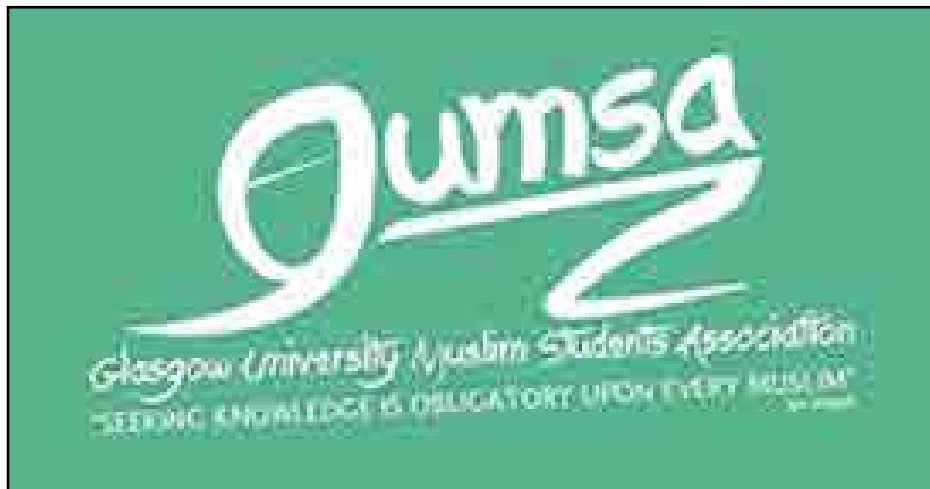


Next, we have the Celtic Supporters Club who aim to bring together Celtic supporters and general football fans from across the university to attend games and participate in social events. They also regularly carry out fundraising activities such as foodbank drives, and fundraiser nights to further the charitable ideals the club was founded on. One such example is their foodbank fundraiser in December which raised over £800 and donated over half a tonne of food to a Foodbank. They also arranged a charity football match in aid of a men's mental health charity – a taboo topic within football.





## MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION



Thirdly, we have Glasgow University Muslim Students Association (GUMSA). The society aim to connect fellow Muslim students through socials, revision sessions and other big events across the year. The society is also noted for their charitable efforts. GUMSA took a part in Charity Week 2021, organised by Islamic Relief, and raised over £4,000 in one week for orphans and needy children across the world. They have also taken part in a city-wide charity quiz night with the Islamic Societies at UWS, Strathclyde and GCU among other events across the year.



## GU STUDENT WELLBEING AWARD

It is so important to recognise clubs and societies that look out for student wellbeing and mental health- something that has been so important this year. Inclusive of all aspects like mental health, sexual health, physical health, this category recognises any society that has gone over and above for wellbeing.

### SELF CARE SOCIETY



The first nominee is the Self Care Society, which encourages the student community to acknowledge and prioritise their health and wellbeing. The society has set up numerous events and socials to relax and meet like-minded people, something that has been cherished by students here at the university.

### SUCCESSFUL WOMEN AT GLASGOW



Next up, we have SWAG – Successful Women at Glasgow, a society here that aims to celebrate, inspire and facilitate all successful women, in both their personal and professional lives. Alongside their numerous events and workshops, SWAG have been part of a working group with the university's four student bodies to address the way reports of sexual violence are handled. They have also been part of the Dear Safe Space campaign aimed at keeping students informed on the resources available regarding Gender-based violence.



## BHAKTI YOGA SOCIETY



We also have the Bhakti Yoga Society, who are a yoga and mantra meditation society that offers weekly yoga sessions and regular mantra meditation in the form of kirtan. Bhakti Yoga Society offers affordable and accessible classes taught by experienced teachers. During lockdowns, the society continued to run classes, noting how important these sessions were for students' mental and physical wellbeing.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY ACTIVISM AWARD

It has been fantastic to see so many clubs and societies working on such important issues and campaigning for things students feel passionate about. This award is for those who have been working on activism and highlighting topics and issues to the UofG community.

### **SUCCESSFUL WOMEN AT GLASGOW**



The first nominee is SWAG – Successful Women at Glasgow. You will have heard all about SWAG from the Wellbeing Award, but SWAG have also been engaged with many initiatives such as holding vigils, which have drawn attention to the deep-rooted issues of gender based violence, as well as providing a space for people to reflect and heal. This week is International Womens’ Week and SWAG held their ‘Fight for the Night’ march on Tuesday, alongside many other engaging events. SWAG were also heavily involved in lobbying to MPs regarding the club spiking incidents which occurred a few months back and continue to show a powerful presence on campus.

### **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**



Next, we have Amnesty International Society, who are part of Amnesty International UK, the global human rights group, and their aim is to raise awareness of human rights issues among the UofG student population. Their efforts campaigning on topics, such as climate justice and refugee rights, and fundraising to support human rights have not gone un-noticed, being featured in the Glasgow Guardian, the student newspaper here at the university. Amnesty have strengthened important activist links with groups in and out of the university, and we hope that these efforts produce continued success.



## ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS



Then we have EWB - Engineers without Borders, who this year have successfully highlighted the importance of sustainability and environmental awareness in engineering and beyond. Especially following COP26, these conversations have been especially important in the world of engineering. Amongst their many events, they have focused on many topics from electric cars to biomedical technologies and have stressed the importance of making positive changes in all aspects of our day to day lives



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT OF THE YEAR

This year has been all about social media and clubs and societies do a wonderful job at keeping students up to date online. These societies have curated pages with interesting and engaging graphics, motivational updates and strong content.

### GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY



The first is Geography Society, who aim to provide social and academic events targeted to those studying in the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences. Revived from dormancy in 2019 by your ~brilliant~ VPSA, the society has exponentially grown its membership over the last three years, especially following lockdown to over 200 members, and their social media presence has helped massively. Integrating Facebook, Instagram, and developing an alumni network through LinkedIn has helped the society foster a community of like-minded students who attend their events regularly.

### INSIGHT INTO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Secondly, we have the GIST - Insight into Science and Technology. The society is an award-winning student science website (and magazine bi-annually!) that lets students get real experience writing, editing, or producing multimedia about science. The GIST have over 5.7k cumulative followers across their social sites and website and use them to promote their recent publications. Their recent magazine and their weekly posts on social media have demonstrated their increased focus on design within their work.



## SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB



Thirdly, we have the Scottish Country Dance Club, who host regular events and classes for anyone to join! Alongside their dance classes, the society hosts a whole range of social events including movie nights, pub quizzes and so much more. GSCDC have been noted for their social media presence in recent times, reaching out to many new students and old to follow and join their events!



## GU PRINCIPAL'S AWARD FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

This award - selected by the Principal - recognises exemplary contributions made by student volunteers, to communities beyond campus. Recipients of the award demonstrate a personal commitment to civically engaged life in Glasgow; working for social justice, motivating others to become caring, active, responsible and informed citizens. Their work inspires and helps advance communities, improve the common knowledge, social cohesion, and quality of life for others.

### ASHIN NINAN - OXFAM



The first nominee is Ashin Ninan, who has been volunteering for Oxfam since June 2021 and has shown great enthusiasm and commitment in assisting the charity's projects. Ashin always comes in with a smile on his face, ready to take on any task that he's given. He has a willingness to help others and is a great team player. He is a real people person and has such a great energy which puts him in great stead for his future and career.

### HANNAH BURNETT - VOLUNTEER TUTORS ORGANISATION



Our next nominee is Hannah Burnett, for her volunteering work with the Volunteer Tutors Organisation; an educational charity based in Glasgow who provide one-to-one tutoring services to disadvantaged primary and secondary school children within the Greater Glasgow area. Hannah fully embodies the values of a VTO tutor and is a credit to the university. In her time with VTO she has demonstrated patience, kindness, and faith in her pupil's ability to overcome barriers to education. This is evidenced by her pupil successfully obtaining national qualifications in English, Maths, Modern Studies, and History.





## MEDICAL STUDENTS LGBTQIA+ SOCIETY



Our final nominee in this category is the Glasgow Medical Students' LGBTQIA+ Society. The society advocates for LGBTQIA+ medical students and patients. This includes anything from providing a safe space to hosting socials and educational events on LGBTQIA+ health issues. In addition, the society raises issues on climate change, racism, and mental health and highlights how each relate to and impact the LGBTQIA+ community.

## STUDENT ACTION FOR REFUGEES



Next, we have Student Action for Refugees Glasgow. STAR is a national charity which aims to raise awareness of issues facing refugees and asylum seekers. With lots of persistence and negative tests, STAR have managed to successfully continue to organise and run their weekly conversation clubs that help local members of the refugee and asylum seeker community meet new people, improve their conversational English, and settle into the city.



## **GU CLUB OR SOCIETY MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

This award is to recognise those who have been essential to the success of their club or society and have made a huge impact on their members and the wider university community.

### **ALEX NESTI – GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY**



First up is Alex Nesti, President of the Geography Society. Alex has been at the forefront of carrying on the brilliant work of the society, following on from the committees led by the current VPSA, Sam Malis. He has been noted as a great leader to a supportive group of students who have planned several iconic events including their COP26 Fringe, Valentine's Ceilidh, and their Fundraising February calendar of events. Even with final year studies heaping a lot of pressure onto Alex, he has been able to put 110% into the society as it grows into a household institution here at the university.

### **SARAH WILSON – CHARITY FASHION SHOW**



Next, we have Sarah Wilson, President of the Charity Fashion Show. Sarah led a group of over 70 committee members, models and brand ambassadors to host the university's Charity Fashion Show – the city's biggest student fundraiser. She worked immensely hard to help bring the charity Fashion Show's engagement to the level it was in 2020. Across the year, the society fundraised for Refuweegee – a charity in Glasgow who welcome new refugees into the city. Along with her exec, she has gone above and beyond to have coordinated the most successful GUCFS fundraising total yet.



## ANDREW TAYLOR – RAISE GLASGOW



Thirdly we have Andrew Taylor, the President of Raise Glasgow, a society which has worked to fundraise for the Against Malaria Foundation. Andrew has helped the society raise over £13,000 to date. The society is only in its second year and considering this would have been during the peak of lockdown restrictions, Andrew has shown excellent leadership in making sure the society continues to reach such impressive fundraising targets. Andrew has been noted to be a hard worker in his position as president, and it sure is a thing to be proud of.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY EVENT OF THE YEAR

Clubs and Societies have put on some incredible and wide-ranging events throughout the year, despite the challenging restrictions and uncertainty the pandemic has brought. This award is to recognise the event that has made the biggest impact to the university community and to a club or society's members.

### VOICE OF GLASGOW – CHINESE STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION



First, we have the Voice of Glasgow, hosted by the Chinese Students and Scholars Association. The society aim to be a hub for all Chinese students at the university. The Voice of Glasgow event aimed to showcase the best student talents out there. The event was widely attended, and fondly received. The CSSA are known for their wide engagement with students at their flagship events, shown by them winning last year's award for their Spring Gala.

### PSYCHOLOGY FOR SOCIAL CHANGE CONFERENCE – PSYCHOLOGY SOCIETY



Next, we have the Psychology for Social Change Conference, hosted by the Psychology Society. The Psychology Society have been one of the most active academic societies across the university this year, and their Conference has epitomised their efforts. Students were able to network virtually, and in person, making the most of restrictions easing, whilst noting that accessibility is key for those who could not attend in person. The conference brought together real experts of the field to present, and it was well received by those who attended.



## STAG NIGHTS – STUDENT THEATRE AT GLASGOW



Thirdly, we have STAG Nights, hosted by Student Theatre at Glasgow, who are 100 years old this year! STAG Nights consisted of 8 plays and two interval acts (including a collaboration with the Cecilian Society) over 3 intense nights! Over 80 people helped to curate the calendar of events, and it proved a great success, with attendances of over 100 people each night. Following a year and a half of online theatre, and with a totally revamped committee, STAG was able to circumvent the many issues finding space to rehearse amongst others to produce an incredible set of shows.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY OF THE YEAR

This award is to acknowledge and celebrate the amazing achievements of clubs and societies on campus. Here we celebrate standout clubs or societies that have achieved something extraordinary, celebrated a milestone or just been all-round fantastic throughout the year as restrictions have eased, and activity on campus has gradually returned.

### INDONESIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION



The first is the Indonesian Student Association. This society aims to support Indonesian students here during their academic journey in Glasgow. The society have been very active during the year and had the pleasure of hosting the Indonesian ambassador to the UK amongst a number of notable Indonesian ministers to the university during COP26. Alongside this iconic event, the society has held social events that not just cater to Indonesian students at the Gilmorehill campus, but at Dumfries, and at other universities in the Greater Glasgow area. The society's work has not gone unnoticed, fostering a family feeling for the small group of Indonesian students here at the university.

### TAYLOR SWIFT SOCIETY



Next, we have Taylor Swift Society. One of the newest and fastest growing societies on campus, the society has gone from strength to strength and exceeded all expectations from those involved. SwiftSoc has had an explosive growth with over 1,000 Instagram followers and 600+ members in just 4 months. They have organised a number of events to bring students together, listening parties, a subcrawl, raised over £150 at their bake sale, and over £700 for Rape Crisis Scotland at their recent collaborative karaoke night with SWAG. The society have also worked with fellow SwiftSocs across Glasgow, coming together to celebrate the musical sensation that is Taylor Swift.



## TAMIL SOCIETY



Next, we have the Tamil Society, another recently formed society. The society was founded during the midst of the pandemic to bring together Tamil students here at the university. Even with this year being the first year of the society, they have been able to wildly increase engagement, reaching over 100 members, during the height of lockdowns and no in-person activities. It has become a home away from home for some and unites the members in a celebration of their shared culture and identity, not forgetting they are also welcoming to those who may just be interested in learning more about Tamil culture.



First, I want to say well done to all the nominees, and especially to our winners.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has helped me organise this event, from the University to the AV IT team, who have helped us with the venue and technical setup! Shout out to the SRC Admin Team and staff who have been the glue in planning this award ceremony along with me. This programme you are reading right was brilliantly designed by our Comms team, along with all the graphics, because I do not think my efforts on Microsoft Paint would have gone down well!

Thanks so much to my fellow council members too, who worked with me to undertake the hard task of shortlisting the nominees.

Huge thanks to SRC Volunteering's Gemma, and our Deputy Manager Gina, who have both helped me throughout the year with everything related to clubs, societies, and volunteers. Without them this year, I would have not learnt so much about how our clubs, societies, and volunteers across the university operate.

Lastly, I can't forget about all of you, who have contributed to bettering the student experience during such a disruptive period. I'm looking forward to seeing you all achieve even greater things next year!

Thank you for attending tonight. I hope you have enjoyed it. Time for a party!



Sam Malis

**Vice President Student Activities**  
**Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**





# **AWARD CATEGORIES**

**GU Club or Society  
Charitable Giving  
Award**

**GU Student  
Wellbeing Award**

**GU Club or Society  
Activism Award**

**GU Award for  
Community Volunteering**

**GU Award for  
Campus Volunteering**

**GU Club or Society  
Engagement of the Year**

**GU Club or Society  
Event of the Year**

**GU Club or Society  
Member of the Year**

**GU Club or Society  
of the Year**

**GU Principal's Award  
for Civic Engagement**

